Nepal, Korea, Oman, Canada, Italy, Thailand, Kenya, Australia, Germany & Belgium for official business.

(c) It is not possible to compute total expenditure on sales promotion of each visit. Since it is under many heads and mixed with other items.

(d) Such sales promotion/business visits are necessary in the airlines industry, although it is not possible to quantify the benefits of each visit.

Air Accidents

2159. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *ALIAS* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of air accidents which took place from 1st February, 1994 to 31st December, 1994;

(b) what is the number of people killed in these accidents;

(c) what amount was given for the dead and to the injured people;

(d) what are the details of losses suffered by Government by these accidents;

(e) what is the number of accidents, out of these accidents which occurred due to errors of employees; and

(f) what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There were nine accidents to civil aircraft registered in India between 1-2-1994 and 31-12-94; of these five were fatal accidetns, in which 29 persons were killed.

(c) Provisions for payment of compensation to the dead and injured under the Carriage by Air Act, 1972 and notifications issued there under are not applicable in these cases since none of the deceased person was the passenger of scheduled flights.

(d) One aircraft belonging to Ministry of Environment and Forest was completely destroyed; one of the engines of an Indian Airlines aircraft was damaged and three aerobridges and parking bays at Delhi Airport were damaged.

(e) and (f) Investigation of 4 accidents have been completed and the investigation reports are under examination of the Government. Five accidents are under investigation.

Privatisation of ITDC Hotels

2160. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has invited foreign investments for use in important hotels of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to privatise important ITDC hotels?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. But ITDC have invited bids for marketing and management tie-up for its six elite hotels, from leading international hotel chains operating globally.

(c) No, Sir.

Plans to attract Japanese Tourists in Orissa

2161. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a tremendous scope to attract Japanese tourists into Orissa;

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government in that regard;

(c) the plan drawn up for the purpose; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Government of India Tourist Office in Japan, publicises and promotes in the Japanese markets, tourist attractions of Orrisa and facilities available to Tourists in the State along with other Tourist destinations. Representatives of media from Japan are also invited by the Department of Tourism under its hospitality programme to visit Orissa from time to time, so as to promote Orissa through their respective medium.

(c) and (d) Publicity and promotion of vari-

ous Indian tourist destinations is an on-going activity of the Department. The schemes prioritised by the Department of Tourism for development of tourism in Orissa, include, construction of tourist complexes in Hirakund, Narasingnath and Koraput, a tourist lodge in Rayagada, acquisition of speed boats at Satpada and illumination of the approach road to Jagannath Temple, Puri. The Airport at Bhubaneswar is also being expanded.

Instrument Landing System at IGIA

2162. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Instrument Landing System installed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport for use in bad weather has not been working for years; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to put the system in proper working order?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Facilities for Tourists

2163. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra and Gujarat offer the greatest domestic tourism potential for over 280 million tourists who travel widely within the country and out of these about 90 million comprise of pilgrims;

(b) if so, what steps Government have so far taken or propose to take in Maharashtra, Gujarat and other parts of the country for providing more facilities for the tourists, particularly for their lodging, boarding and transport arrangements; and

(c) how much amount Central/State Governments have allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and how much of it has actually been spent in each year during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Maharashtra and Gujarat do offer high potential for the promotion of domestic tourism including pilgrim tourists.

(b) It is the endeavour of the Department of Tourism, Government of India, to extend financial assistance to all State Governments/Union Territories including Maharashtra and Gujarat for the development of tourism. On receipt of proposals in accordance with the guidelines, the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India extends financial assistance for various schemes like construction of wayside amenities, tourist bungalows, lodges, yatri niwases, purchase of water sports equipments and assistance for transport facilities.

(c) Statement indicating the amount sanctioned/released to all State Governments/Union Territories for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is placed at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 49]

Airlines staff attitude towards passengers

2164. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the existing instructions to remove the difficulties being faced by the passengers of Indian Airlines both on the ground and in the air;

(b) whether any surprise checks are made to see that passengers are not subjected to problems; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the incidents where Airlines staff was found with indifferent attitude towards passengers during the last one year and what action was taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As per the existing instructions, it is the duty of the facilitation staff and the Duty Officer to ensure that the passengers get immediate assistance in case of any problem.

The performance of facilitation staff is regularly monitored by the Station Managers/Airport Managers.